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Application Division  
U. S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D. C. 20231

RE: Patent Application Entitled: A Garage Door Ventilation Apparatus  
Inventor: Hamilton Dorest

Gentlemen:

Enclosed herewith are the required application papers in the above application. Also included is the required filing fee of Three Hundred Ninety Five and No/100 (\$395.00) Dollars.

Would you please inform me of the application filing date and the application number at your earliest convenience.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to call me at (713) 529-2901.

Yours truly,

*Kenneth D. Baugh*  
KENNETH D. BAUGH

KDB/ldb

Enclosures: As stated above.

Applicant: **HAMILTON DOREST**  
Serial No.  
Filed:

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY  
STATUE (37CFR 1.9) (C) AND 1.27 (B) - INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

I hereby declare that I qualify as independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9 (c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under section 41 (a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code with regard to the invention entitled **A GARAGE DOOR VENTILATION APPARATUS** filed herewith by inventor **HAMILTON DOREST** described in application and specification attached herewith Serial No. filed \_\_\_\_\_, 2000.

I hereby declare that I have not assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not likewise be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9 (c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9 (d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9 (e).

  
**NAME OF INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

16310 QUAILYNN COURT, MISSOURI CITY, TEXAS 77489

I acknowledge the duty to file in this application or patent, notification of any change of status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the fee on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28 (b) )

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my knowledge are true and that statements made on information and belief are believed to be true and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

  
**NAME OF INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

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DATE: 3-6-2000

## **A GARAGE DOOR VENTILATION APPARATUS**

0974474.1.1.00

This invention relates to a garage door and a garage door ventilation apparatus to be used on the garage door to facilitate air flow inside the garage area when the door is closed. The garage area of a home is a very important and popular area of the home for various reasons. It is very popular for use as a work area for working on automobiles, working on household projects and other such activities. It is also popular for use as a recreational area. In these kinds of activities it is often desirable to have the garage area closed in by keeping the door down. However keeping the garage door down can often make it uncomfortable while the desired activity is being performed.

### **BACKGROUND ART**

Attempts have been made to provide garage doors to facilitate ventilation in a garage door area when the door is closed. One such door is disclosed in U. S. Patent 3,927,709. Such doors are provided with a series of holes in the garage door which are covered by a permanently mounted screen. The use of such a device requires the total replacement of the existing garage door. Accordingly, these devices can not be readily used to facilitate ventilation in the garage areas where it is not desirable to replace the entire door.

Other attempts have been made to provide ventilation in garage doors by cutting out portions of the garage door assemblies and installing windows in the existing panels. Such an arrangement is disclosed in U. S. Patent 5,497,588. Although  
5 this is a workable arrangement it is not necessarily desirable because it can be costly.

### **DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION**

A ventilation apparatus is provided for mounting in a garage door. The ventilation apparatus is provided with a  
10 rectangular shaped base support member having an opening formed therein. A first rectangular shaped tracking member having an opening formed therein is aligned in first portions of the opening in the base member. The ventilation apparatus is also provided with a first transparent member which is coupled  
15 in the opening in the first tracking member. A second rectangular shaped tracking member having an opening formed therein is aligned in second portions of the opening in the base support member. A second transparent member is mounted for slidable movement in the opening in the second tracking  
20 member. This allows the second transparent member to be moved to a position to cover the second portions of the opening in the base member as well as moved to a position so that the

second portions of the opening in the base member are uncovered.

#### **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING**

5           The details of the invention will be described in connection with the accompanying drawing in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating a garage including a garage door ventilation apparatus illustrated in a garage door in accordance with the principles of the invention.

10           Figure 2 is a front plain view of a garage door ventilation apparatus in accordance with the principles of the invention.

Figure 3 is a front plain view of a garage door ventilation apparatus with a screen member removed in accordance with the principles of the invention.

15           Figure 4 is a cross-sectional view taken along line 3-3 of Figure 3.

Figure 5 is a front plain view illustrating a second embodiment of a garage door ventilation apparatus in accordance with the principles of the invention.

20           Figure 6 is a cross sectional view taken along line 5-5 of Figure 5.

### **BEST MODE FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION**

Referring to Figure 1 there is shown, a garage, generally designated, by the numeral 10, including a garage door, generally designated, by the numeral 12. The garage door 12 is slidably mounted in a well known manner in a garage door opening (shown covered). The garage door 12 is provided with a plurality of panels 14, 16, 18 and 20. A handle 22 for facilitating raising and lowering the garage door 12 is formed on the panel 18. A pair of ventilation panels, generally designated, by the numeral, 26 are horizontally aligned and coupled in the garage door panel 14 of the garage door 12 in openings 28 formed therein.

As illustrated in Figures 2,3 and 4 the ventilation panel 26 is provided with a support or frame assembly member, generally designated, by the numeral, 30. The frame member 30 is provided with a first rectangular planar shaped frame member generally designated, by the numeral 32. The planar shaped member 32 is provided with an upper horizontally extending member 34 and a spaced lower horizontally extending member 36. The planar shaped member 32 is also provided with a

vertically extending member 38 coupled between each end of the horizontally extending members 34 and 36 thereby forming a frame opening, generally designated, by the numeral, 40 therebetween.

5           The frame assembly 30 is also provided with a second rectangular shaped frame member generally designated, by the numeral 42. The second frame member 42 is provided with an upper horizontally extending member 44 and a space lower horizontally extending member 46. The second frame member  
10       42 is also provided with a vertically extending member 48 coupled between the horizontally extending members 44 and 46 at each end thereof. The spaced horizontally extending members 44 and 46 are aligned adjacent to a corresponding one of the horizontally extending members 34 and 36, respectively, and is  
15       coupled thereto to extend perpendicularly therefrom. Additionally the vertically extending members 48 are aligned adjacent to a corresponding one of the vertically extending members 38 and are coupled thereto to extend perpendicularly therefrom. As a result, the frame member 42 is perpendicular  
20       coupled to the frame member 32 so that it extends perpendicularly therefrom into the opening 40.





intermediate vertically extending member 74 (Fig. 3) is coupled  
to extend between the tracks 68 and 70 at an intermediate  
portion thereof and an end member 76 is coupled to extend  
between the horizontal tracks at one end thereof to form  
5 window frame 78 in a second portion of the frame opening 40.

The frame 78 is the same size as the frame 54. A window 82 is  
coupled in the window frame 78 and the frame is slidably  
mounted in the frame 56 so that the window 82 can be  
selectively moved to fully or partially cover the second portions  
10 of the frame opening 40 thereby providing ventilation into the  
garage 10 as desired. The window 82 may be made, for  
example, of glass or plexiglass. A window locking member,  
generally designated, by the numeral, 84 having locking portions  
86 and 88 which lockingly engage each other in a well known  
15 manner is provided to lockingly securing the window 82 in  
place. The ventilation panel 26 may also be provided with a  
screen member 90 (Figs. 1 and 2) which can be removably  
secured in the frame in a well known manner to cover the  
windows 66 and 82 when desired.

20 The ventilation panel 26 is also provided with a plurality  
of coupling members 91 formed on the horizontal and vertical

frame members 34 and 36. The coupling members 91 are provided to couple the panel 26 to the garage door panel 14 of the garage door and may be, for example be rivets or some other well known screw and/or bolting assembly.

5           Referring to Figures 5 and 6, a second embodiment of the ventilation panel 26 is provided with a frame assembly, generally designated, by the numeral, 92. The frame assembly 92 is provided with a first rectangular planar shaped frame member, generally designated, by the numeral, 94. The planar  
10   shaped member 94 is provided with an upper horizontally extending member 96 and a spaced lower horizontally extending member 98. The planar shaped member 92 is also provided with a vertically extending member 100 coupled between each end of the horizontally extending members 96 and 98 thereby forming a  
15   frame opening 102. The frame assembly 92 is provided with a second rectangular shaped frame member, generally designated, by the numeral, 104. The second frame member 104 is provided with an upper horizontally extending member 106 and a spaced lower horizontally extending member 108. The frame member  
20   104 is also provided with a vertically extending member 110 coupled between the horizontally extending members 96 and 98 at each end thereof. The frame assemblies 104 and 92 are



window frame 112 on frame member 104. The window frame  
 114 is provided with an upper and lower horizontally extending  
 tracks 132 and 134 and a vertically extending track 136  
 vertically coupled between the tracks 132 and 134 at outermost  
 5 ends to form the rectangular window frame 114 (Fig. 6). An  
 intermediate vertically extending member 137 (Fig. 5) is coupled  
 to extend between the tracks 132 and 134 at an intermediate  
 portion thereof and end member 138 is coupled to extend  
 between the horizontal tracks at an end thereof to form a  
 10 window frame 140 in a second portion of the opening 102. A  
 window 144 is coupled in the window frame 140 and the frame  
 is slidably mounted in the frame 114 so that the window can be  
 selectively moved into and out of the second portion of the  
 opening 102. The window 144 may be made, for example, of  
 15 glass or plexiglass. A window locking members, generally  
 designated, by the numeral, 146 is provided having locking  
 portions 148 and 150 which lockingly engage each other in a  
 well known manner to lockingly secure the windows 130 and  
 144. The ventilation panel 26 may also be provided with a  
 20 screen member (not shown) as is illustrated in Figure 2. The  
 ventilation panel is also provided with coupling members 152

which couple the panel to the garage door panel of the garage door 12.

The invention has been shown and described in what is considered to be the most practical and preferred embodiment.

5 However, it should be recognized that changes may be made by those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.



2. A ventilation apparatus as defined in Claim 1 further including a means supported in the opening in the base support member for covering the first and second transparent members.

3. A ventilation apparatus as defined in Claim 2 wherein the  
5 base support member includes:

a first pair of spaced aligned horizontally extending members;

a first pair of spaced aligned vertically extending members, one of the vertically extending members being coupled  
10 between each end portion of the pair of horizontally extending members so that an opening in the base support member is formed therebetween; and

an intermediate vertically extending member coupled between intermediate portions of the pair of spaced horizontally  
15 extending members so that the opening formed between the pair of horizontally extending and vertically extending members is provided with a first and a second portion.

4. A ventilation apparatus as defined in Claim 3 wherein the base member further includes:

5 a second pair of spaced aligned horizontally extending members, each one of the second pair of horizontally extending members being perpendicularly coupled to one of the first pair of horizontally extending members; and

10 a second pair of spaced vertically extending members, each one of the second pair of vertically extending members being perpendicularly coupled to one of the first pair of vertically extending members.

5. A ventilation apparatus as defined in Claim 4 wherein the first tracking member includes:

15 a first pair of spaced aligned horizontally extending tracks each one of the tracks being coupled to one of the second horizontally extending members; and

20 a first pair of spaced aligned vertically extending tracks one of the vertically extending tracks being coupled between each outermost end portion of the pair of horizontally extending tracks on an adjacent one of the second pair of spaced vertically extending members.





10. A ventilation apparatus for mounting in a garage door including:

a rectangular shaped base member having an opening formed therein;

5 a first rectangular shaped tracking member having an opening formed therein, aligned in the opening in the base member;

10 a first transparent member slidably coupled in the opening in the first tracking member so that the first tracking member can be moved to a position so first portions of the opening in the base member are closed and can be moved to another position so that the opening is open;

15 a second rectangular shaped tracking member having an opening formed therein aligned in the opening in the base support member adjacent the first tract member; and

20 a second transparent member mounted for slidable movement in the opening in the second tracking member so that the second member can be moved to a position to cover the second portions of the opening in the base member and so that the second transparent member can be moved to a position so that the second portions of the opening in the base member is open.





a second pair of spaced aligned horizontally extending tracks aligned adjacent to the first pair of horizontally extending tracks; and

16. A ventilation apparatus as defined in Claim 15 wherein the second transparent member includes a piece of Plexiglas.

17. A ventilation apparatus as defined in Claim 16 further including a covering means for covering the transparent members..

18. A ventilation apparatus as defined in Claim 17 wherein the covering means includes a screen.

## **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A ventilation apparatus 26 is provided for mounting in a garage 10 door. The ventilation apparatus is provided with a rectangular shaped base support member 30 having an opening 40 formed therein. A first rectangular shaped tracking member 54 is aligned in first portions of the opening 40 in the base member 30. The ventilation apparatus 26 is also provided with a first transparent member 66 which is coupled in the first tracking member 54. A second rectangular shaped tracking member 56 is aligned in second portions of the opening 40 in the base support member 30. A second transparent member 82 is mounted for slidable movement in the second tracking member 56. This allows the second transparent member 82 to be moved to a position to cover the second portions of the opening 40 in the base member 30 as well as be moved to a position so that the second portions of the opening in the base member are uncovered.







IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: **A GARAGE DOOR VENTILATION APPARATUS** described and claimed in the attached specification.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, { 1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, { 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, { 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, { 112. I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, { 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application specification:

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney and/or agent to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent Trademark Office connected therewith:

**KENNETH D. BAUGH**, Registration No. 27,707, 2413 Blodgett, Houston, Texas 77004,  
(713) 529-2901.

Please address all telephone calls and correspondence to **KENNETH D. BAUGH** at  
the telephone number and address indicated above.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that  
all statements made on information and belief are delivered to be true; and further that these  
statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are  
punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United  
States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or  
any patent issued thereon.

**FULL NAME OF SOLE OR  
FIRST INVENTOR**

**HAMILTON DOREST**

**INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE**

*Hamilton Dorest*

**DATE**

*3-6-2000*

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